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## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

**DATE:** August 25, 2003  
**FILE NO:** WEAT/0076  
**TO:** Examiner David Bochna  
**FAX NO:** 703-872-9327  
**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** William B. Patterson  
**PAGE(S) with cover:** 7

**ORIGINAL TO  
FOLLOW?**

☐ YES ☒ NO

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 18, 2003**

**TITLE:** Expandable Slotted Tubing String And Method For Connecting  
Such A Tubing String  
**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 09/381,508  
**CUSTOMER NO.:** 36,735  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 4047  
**FILING DATE:** September 21, 1999  
**INVENTOR:** Paul David Metcalfe  
**EXAMINER:** David Bochna  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3679

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AUG 25 2003

**GROUP 3600**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
**Paul David Metcalfe**

Serial No.: 09/381,508

Confirmation No.: 4047

**Filed: September 21, 1999**

**For: Expandable Slotted Tubing  
String And Method For  
Connecting Such A Tubing  
String**

**MAIL STOP AF**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**Dear Sir:**

**Group Art Unit: 3679**

**Examiner: David Bochna**

**Customer No.: 36,735**

# OFFICIAL

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE  
TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703-872-9327 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

8/25/03  
Date

**Signature**

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 18, 2003**

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 18, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 18, 2003, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no fee is due in conjunction with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0076/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4.

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